



# *Congratulations on Your* **New Pug!**

*Owning a Pug is a joyful experience and your Pug's happiness and health is in your hands. Only you are responsible for taking care of your Pug by providing proper housing, food and training. We wish you many years of happiness with this little clown!*



## **About the Pug**

The Pug is the largest dog in the Toy group. He has the advantage of a small size, which makes him easy to carry and care for, yet he is sturdy for fun and games.

The Pug originated in the Orient and came to America through Holland and England. He is popular in the show ring and is a wonderful playmate and companion in any household. Truly a "people" animal, the Pug is always ready to do what his "person" does, whether it is napping, eating or having a tussle on the floor. Their love of life and companionship transfers into warm and affectionate behavior with any and all persons met.



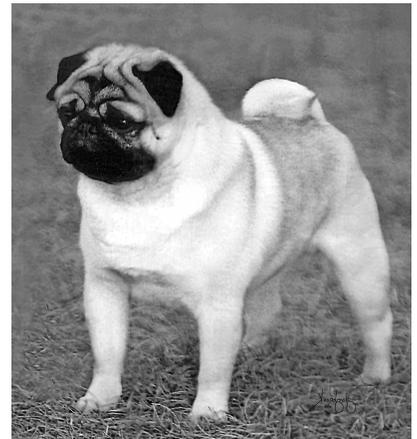
A Pug's curiosity and joy makes them ideal playmates for children, whether it is sharing the child's toys or their food. Toys and food aren't the only things Pugs like to share. They do shed, so choose your clothes colors wisely!

Once you have experienced unconditional love from your pug, you will wonder how you managed without one. Get ready to laugh a lot and to learn the comforting sound of a soft snore.

## **Feeding**

Pugs love to eat and obesity can become a problem for your dog. Diet monitoring is needed to ensure they maintain a healthy weight. A good quality dry dog food, moistened with warm water provides the nutrition generally needed to maintain healthy skin, bone and internal health.

If your vet recommends supplements, you may add those to the food. Puppies are generally fed three times a day until they are six months old. From six months to a year, feeding is done twice a day and at one year you may consider once daily feedings. Many Pug owners feed their adult dogs twice daily, giving half the daily portion in the morning and the remaining portion in the evening. Because dog food is nutritionally formulated for dogs dietary needs based on extensive research, it is not recommended that you feed your Pug table scraps. It may be hard to resist those big beautiful eyes begging for a treat, but avoiding unnecessary calories can add years to your Pug's life.



## **Health Care**

The Pug is a relatively healthy breed, living to be 15 years of age or older. Several health issues can occur because of the large eyes, short nose and airway. Their large eyes can be easily injured because their snout cannot protect them. Pug-proofing your yard by removing thorny bushes or flowers is a must. Their short nose and airways make them sensitive to extreme cold or hot weather: they are indoor dogs.

Pugs love to drink water, so a fresh and clean supply is a must. Brushing your Pug's coat regularly will help keep it healthy and will also control the amount of shedding in your home. The deep wrinkle over the nose and the ears need regular cleaning. Your Pug's teeth will also need regular brushing to help control tartar and prevent tooth loss and bad breath. Pug teeth should be checked once yearly or more often if problems occur. Most Pugs are not good swimmers, so watch them carefully when around water sources.

The Pug Dog Club of America and its members support health research through research funding and the AKC Canine Health Foundation whose mission is to help dogs live

longer, healthier lives. For more information about research to help the Pug, see

[www.akcchf.org](http://www.akcchf.org)



## Identification

Protect your Pug in case it is lost by using a collar and tags. A permanent microchip or tattoo can also be used for identification. You can register permanent ID s with AKC's Reunite. A 24-hour toll-free hotline helps locate the owners. For information call (800) 252-7894.

## Breeding or Spaying/Neutering

As the Pug's popularity increases, so does the want to breed these adorable creatures. Breeding dogs carries great responsibility and can be very costly. Any puppies bred must be placed in loving homes. As the breeder, you would be expected to answer any questions that may come up and be prepared to buy back any dogs that don't work out in their new homes.

Having a litter is not helpful to a female and may cause health problems and even death. Many Pug females require caesarian sections, which adds risks and expense to whelping. Spayed females live longer, healthier lives. Neutered males have a decreased risk of prostate and testicular cancer and their behavior shows more patience with other male dogs.

If you are serious about becoming an educated breeder, you will find raising top quality Pugs costly but a very exciting and rewarding experience. Do your research and homework about whelping and breeding before you begin. Experienced breeders can mentor you and share information they have gained through years of experience.

The national club, Pug Dog Club of America, local clubs and Pug publications can also be great places to get information.

## Training a Pug

Pugs are clowns at heart. This can make training fun but at times, challenging. Basic obedience training is a must for all dogs. Learning a simple "stay", "sit", or "come" command may save your dog's life. Many Pugs compete in AKC companion events such as Obedience, Rally and Agility trials as well as Conformation. A growing activity to do with your Pug is to certify as a Therapy Dog team.

Kennel clubs in your area may provide obedience classes for you and your dog's enjoyment and training. More

information can be found about these events through your local kennel clubs or by visiting the American Kennel Club's website at

[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)

## Join Us

Join us at a PDCA Chapter Club near you if you would like to be more involved in your breed.

Local Chapter Clubs provide opportunities to learn more about Pugs, meet other Pug people and join in Pug-related activities. By states, the local Chapter Clubs are:

- CA City of Angels Pug Club Inc  
Northern California Pug Club
- CO Rocky Mountain Pug Dog Club
- CT Yankee Pug Dog Club
- FL Pug Club of South Florida
- GA Greater Atlanta Pug Club
- IN Central Indiana Pug Club
- KY Bluegrass Pug Fanciers, Inc.
- MA Patriot Pug Dog Club
- MD Pug Dog Club of Maryland, Inc.
- MI Mid-Michigan Pug Club
- MN Heart of Minnesota Pug Dog Club
- NC Central Carolina Pug Dog Club
- NJ Delaware Valley Pug Club
- NY Pug Dog Club of Greater New York
- TX Bluebonnet Pug Dog Club  
Pug Dog Club of Greater San Antonio
- VA Old Dominion Pug Club, Inc.
- WA Puget Sound Pug Dog Club
- WI Great Lakes Pug Club

You can contact Chapter Clubs through the internet or the PDCA website.



Visit the Pug Dog Club of America (PDCA) website for information on Pug Health, rescue, Breeder Referral and more!

[www.pugdogclubofamerica.com](http://www.pugdogclubofamerica.com)

